

MRFSS Facts and Figures

West Florida 1998



Five Frequently Encountered Fish 1998					
Species	Number Caught (Thousands)	Number Harvested (Thousands)	Pounds Harvested (Thousands)	Number Released (Thousands)	Mean Length (Harvested Fish)
SPOTTED SEATROUT	9,417	1,439	2,245	7,978	16.6"
GRAY SNAPPER	4,055	795	1,041	3,261	12.5"
WHITE GRUNT	3,784	1,502	1,088	2,282	9.6"
GAG	2,599	533	3,693	2,066	23.7"
CREVALLE JACK	2,370	221	495	2,149	12.9"

Length data are reported as fork length. (For most species = tip of snout to fork in tail.)

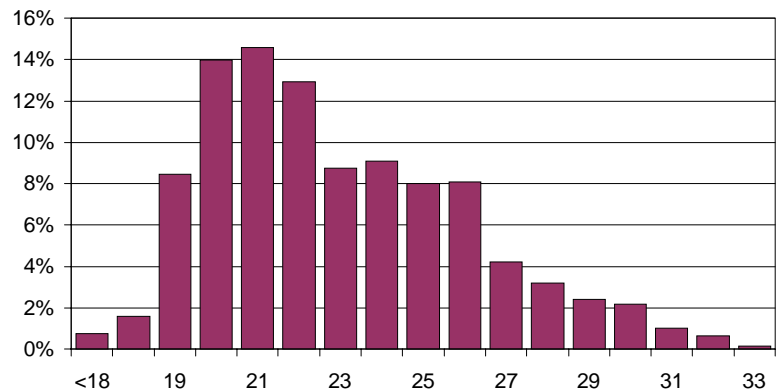
Gag

Mycteroperca microlepis



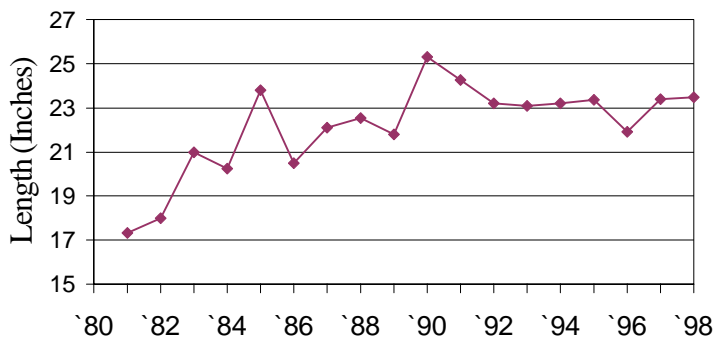
Since 1981, MRFSS field personnel have identified over 285 species of marine fish landed in West Florida.

Length Distribution (in inches) Harvested Gag (1998)

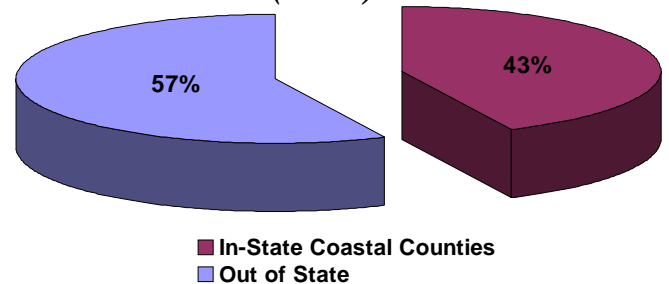


In 1998, over 41% of harvested gag averaged between 20 and 22 inches in length.

Average Length of Harvested Gag (1981 - 1998)



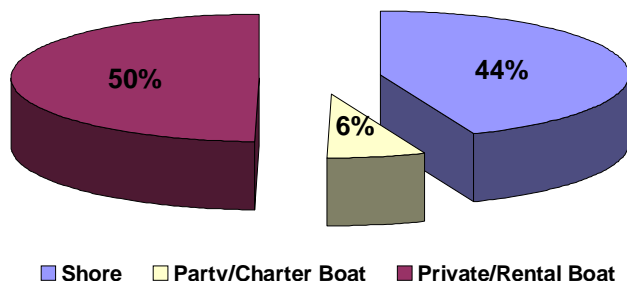
West Florida Anglers' Area of Residence (1998)



All of West FL is considered "coastal."

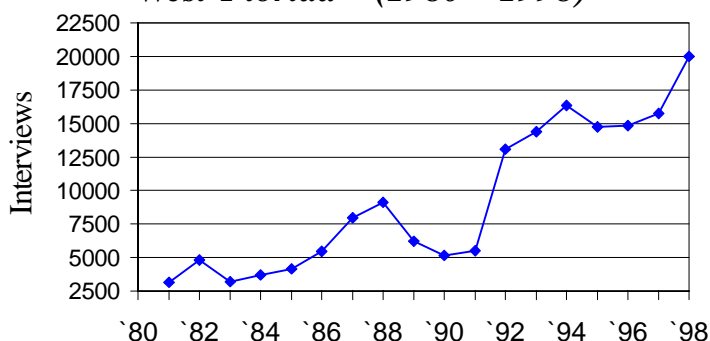
In 1998, nearly 3.0 million anglers participated in West Florida's Marine Recreational Fishery.

Saltwater Fishing Trips by Fishing Mode (1998)



In 1998, anglers took over 12.2 million saltwater fishing trips in West Florida.

Number of Completed Field Surveys West Florida (1980 - 1998)



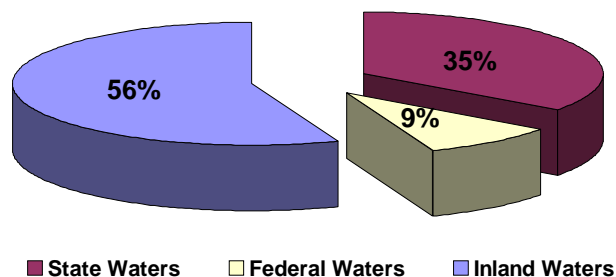
In 1998, MRFSS field personnel completed 20,005 surveys in West Florida.

The base MRFSS sample size was increased by 150% for the Southeast U.S. (NC-LA) beginning in 1992.

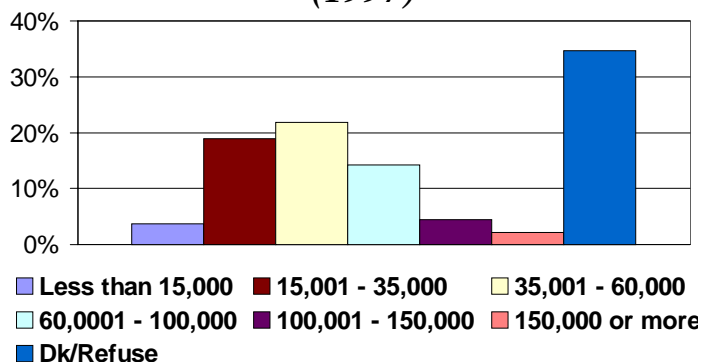
Other large increases in the number of completed interviews represent years in which state contributions increased sample size.

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission personnel conduct the MRFSS field survey.

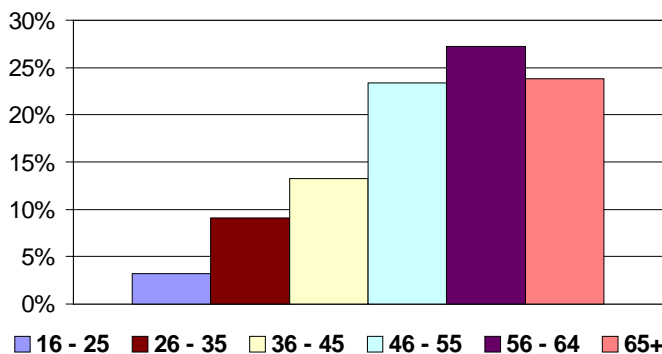
Saltwater Fishing Trips by Area Fished (1998)



Income Distribution for Florida Anglers (1997)



Age Distribution of Florida Anglers (1997)



Age and income information is for all Florida, not just West Florida

WEST FLORIDA MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHING INFORMATION

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Commission-Division of Marine Fisheries
(850) 487-0554
www.state.fl.us/fwc/marine/index.html

Florida FWC - Division of Marine Fisheries
Rules and Regulations
(850) 487-0554
www.state.fl.us/fwc/marine/
Click on Rules link

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
(888) 833-1844 www.gulfcouncil.org
Rules and Regs: www.gulfcouncil.org/bro_rec.htm

Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
(228) 875-5912 www.gsmfc.org